VENONA



[D8:829

Ref. Ha.: 3/MBF/T2 (of 19/7/1958)

Issued 1

15/9/1975

Copy No.: 30/

THE RESISTE

JOHEPH SERGER, CONTACT OF "TAE!": DETAILS, SUGGESTIONS FOR PECRUTTHENT DURING VISIT TO HOSCOW (1945)

Pron: REN TORK

MOSCOW

Hos.: 777-779

25th Nay 1945

[3-part message complete]

[Part I] To VIKTOR[1].

> Joseph BERGER(ii], who is a lead of "YeZ'["][iii] and has already been reported on, has left for SMINUA[iv] as a member of the COUNTRY's[STRAMA][v] delegation to the Reparations Commission. NERGER - 40 years old, [1 group unrecovered], of Russian-Jewish extraction, married, has

> > [32 groups unrecoverable]

[Continued overleaf]

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North Washington Boulevard in the city of ARLINGTON, State of VIRGINIA. Formerly he lived for a long while in the city of PROVINCETOWN in an artists' colony organised by the ROCSEVELY Administration during the depression. He took an active part in the collection of funds

[25 groups unrecoverable]

....S[vi] he wrote books for children. In 1943 he worked in the Press Section of the Department of Justice where he was given the job of writing speeches for BIRDLE[vii] and other chiefs. BERGER prepared all the materials on his own initiative, without having them approved by [1 group unrecovered]

[Part II]

In 1964 he took a post in the National Democratic Committee, where, working under HANCEGAN[viii], he wrote speeches for the leaders of the party for the election compaign. HANCEGAN, who is to be appointed Postmaster General, took REEGER on as his special assistant at a salary of ten thousand dollars a year. B.[ii] will take up his duties when he returns from SHIRMA.

Yaz' has known B. [RE shout] 5 years and describes his as a very progressive fellow who is well disposed towards us. He has often expressed a desire to live permanently in the U.S.S.R. During the past year [CE he has been maintaining contact] with the FELLONCONFRYMEN[ZEMIYEKI][ix].

Having regard to the position he is to occupy in the future and his connections in the Democratic [B% organisation] B. could become a valuable probationer(STAZhER]. I would recommend using B.'s trip to EMTRIA for working on him and [B% possibly] signing his on.

[C% By] obtaining information on the work of the delagates of the COUNTRY you could check for yourselves on the spot his potential-ities.

[31 groups unrecovered]

"Yel" [2 groups unrecovered] in[x] CARTHAGE[KAPFAGEN][xi].

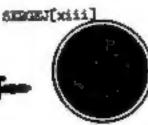
[Part III]

[4 groups unrecovered] YaZ' [3% and] his family, work and so on depending on how B. will [5 groups unrecovered] acquaintance in the direction necessary to us. At the meeting[xii] with YaZ' before departure B. insistently inquired [2 groups unrecovered] in SMYNA sequeintances to whom he wanted to send greetings. If you consider such an alternative[VARIANT] acceptable, upon your request we will communicate a description of YaZ' and his wife and further facts about them, so that there should be no [2 groups unrecovered] attempt on B.'s part to check whether or not our journalists really know YaZ'.

No. 485 25 May 1945

3/NBT/T2

" VENONA





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Footnotes: [1] VIETGR:

Lt. Gen. P.M. FITTM.

[ii] Joseph HERGER/B.:

Joseph Isadore SERGER; num de plume Jeremiah BIGGES. See also deteils in MEW YCEK's No. 785 of 17th May 1944 (3/MBF/7242).

[iii] Tel':

i.e. "IDE"; Simon Samuel KRAFSUR, a TASS

employee.

[IV] SMYSKA:

HOSCOV.

[+] COUNTRY:

U.S.A.

[vi]B:

Probably the list letter of AERGER's non de

plume (see Fo-tnote [ii]).

(vii) BIDDLE:

Francis HITCLE, U.S. Attorney General.

[VIII] HANNOGAN:

Robert E. HAIDEMAN, elected Chairman of the

Democratic Mational Committee on 22nd January

1944.

[12] FELLOWCOUNTRINGS:

Heabers of the Communist Party.

[x] Or "to".

DOL CARDEAGE:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

[mii] Or "mentings".

[2411] MINOR!

Vladimir Sergesvich PRAVDDS, Editor of the

TABS News Agency in MEN TORK CITY.

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